

hundred girls in the paper-box factory at the time the fire broke out.

Next it was rumored that nearly half of them had been caught in the building and were suffocated.

Capt. McCullagh sent a roundsman and a squad of policemen around the neighborhood to verify the report.

A few minutes later two policemen brought into the station-house Mary Ellen Hanly, whose face and clothing were burned.

Dr. Edward J. Donlin, of Houston street, examined the girl and found that her injuries were probably fatal.

By this time reports of more persons being burned and otherwise injured caused Capt. McCullagh to summon ambulances from St. Vincent's and the New York Hospital, and with the arrival of the ambulances came additional crowds of men, women and children.

At 10.40 o'clock a portion of the rear wall of the Wooster street buildings fell, and Fireman Langwasser, who, with another fireman, was directing a stream, went down with it.

Several brother-firemen went to his assistance and extricated him from the mass of debris. He was found to be suffering from burns and cuts and bruises, and he was taken in an ambulance to St. Vincent's Hospital.

At the time it was thought that the other firemen had been caught by the falling wall, but he was afterwards found to have saved himself by jumping.

During all this time the fire raged with such fury that the firemen began to fear that it would spread to the buildings Nos. 107, 109 and 111 Greene street, directly in the rear of the Wooster street buildings.

Flying sparks, together with the intense heat, had already melted the tin covering on the roof of the section-house. The bricks on the Prince street side of the building were scorched rapidly and it was necessary to keep a constant stream on the building to prevent further damage.

At 11 o'clock the firemen were re-enforced by two more engines from up town, and the work of saving the buildings in the neighborhood stood in danger of being lost.

Twenty Thousand Spectators.

At 11.40 o'clock there were not less than 20,000 people gathered in the narrow streets that lead to the scene of the fire.

The air was black with the smoke and stifling with the fumes of the burning wood on the first floor of the building 120 and 122 Wooster street, occupied by Ben. Butler & Co.

The fire had extended by an "L" to the buildings Nos. 120, 122 and 124 Prince street, occupied by small tradesmen and as tenements by their families.

But the firemen had bigger game to fight for on the Wooster street side, for the great warehouses and factories were in imminent danger.

And so the fire was permitted to lick about the timbers of the buildings in Prince street, which had already collapsed, and a painted Indian standing among the debris in front of the ruins that was once the Widow Wetman's cigar store, was slowly robbed of its paint by the flames.

While big Chief Hugh Jenner stood at the corner and watched his men struggling to master greater conflagration in the Wooster street lives of industry, and struggling to save the corner building, in which was the saloon of Charles Kern.

As Bonner stood watching, forces of men from Engines 27 and 33, who had mounted to the roof of the building, were pouring a flood into the scorching cauldron below, there came a warning r-r-r!

There was a cry from on the roof and a responding shriek from the gathered thousands on the street as they scattered, and then there was a mighty roar and a crash.

The front walls of Nos. 122, 124 and 126 Wooster street had fallen in a heap.

From the heap arose a great black cloud of dust, but it did not clear away the firemen on the street were rushing pell-mell upon the new-made mound, which might be the graveyard of their fellow fire-fighters.

As the air cleared a half dozen firemen clambered down the fire-escape on No. 120, and as they descended, yelled that some of their fellows had gone down with collapse of the building.

The firemen became sappers and miners and worked with lightning speed on the heap of debris.

The crowd closed in upon the workers and Capt. McCullagh and his men could not drive them back till, after ten minutes' work, they dragged out the bruised, bleeding, unconscious form of Morris Stack, a fireman of Engine 27.

But there were more, and while men carried Stack to the police station over the way, others continued the digging. They soon unearthed Fireman McCoy, of Engine 33, but before they had a chance to examine him he was at work with the rest. He was unharmed.

Another man was liberated a moment later. He had a badly bleeding hand, but bled a handkerchief about it and resumed work.

The whole pile was turned over, but no other injured man was found.

Extreme Caution Offered.

Stack received extreme caution from a priest of St. Anthony's Church. He was taken to St. Vincent's Hospital, suffering with contusions of the head and back, a broken left leg and probable internal injuries. He may die.

The occupants of the Buildings.

The buildings involved in the fire were occupied as follows:

Ben. Butler & Co., large handlers of wool and raw furs, the whole of the five-story and basement buildings 120 and 122 Wooster street; completely destroyed.

Goldberg's United States Picture and Frame Company had the basement and first floor of Nos. 124 and 126 Wooster street. Destroyed.

Blumenstock, manufacturer of cloth hats and caps, occupied the second floor of Nos. 124 and 126. Destroyed.

The Kelly Publishing Company had the third floor of these numbers. Destroyed.

H. Wagner, manufacturer of paper-boxes, occupied the fourth and fifth floors of 124 and 126. Destroyed.

The next was the corner of Prince street, occupied on the ground floor as a saloon by Charles Kern. The other floors were used as lodging-rooms. This building was badly damaged by water.

In Prince street the first house back of Kern's saloon was No. 124, occupied by Parson, a small shoe dealer, who lived on the floors above. Destroyed.

No. 120 was the residence of Charles Kern, Gustaf and practically destroyed.

The store No. 118 is J. Hugo's bakery, which was flooded by the fire.

At 12.30 the fire was under control.

The losses are estimated to be \$250,000 on the buildings, which were old structures, and about \$150,000 on their contents.

## ALL ABLAZE.

(Continued from First Page.)

able, for it had been fastened up to make room for the painters, and there was nothing to prevent the flames from shooting out into the auditorium.

The first alarm, which was sent out from the private box in the business office of the theatre, was received at headquarters at 9.25 a. m.

Four minutes later came a third alarm from the box at Broadway and Thirty-ninth street, and this was speedily followed by a fourth alarm and several special calls, as soon as Chief Bonner arrived and saw how serious the situation was.

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side by the fire and the other by the well-hole.

"I shouted to him to hold on for a minute, and then ran across the street to the livery, stable to get a ladder. When I returned a moment later I found him lying unconscious on the stage at the bottom of the well-hole.

"The place where he had been standing was entirely enveloped in flames. I had hardly time to drag him out of the way of the falling clinders and pieces of burning scenery which were dropping down on the stage on all sides.

"A moment more and he could not have been saved, for no one could possibly have reached him.

"The lad was immediately taken to an ambulance to Bellevue Hospital. I do not think he can live, for besides being terribly burned he was crushed and mangled by his fall from the flies."

Manager Abbey a Heavy Loser.

"Do you know what Mr. Abbey's loss will be?"

"I haven't the least idea. He is in San Francisco and has been telegraphed to. I believe he has the costumes for the opera that are to be produced there in the building, and if so they must be totally destroyed either by fire or water."

The amount of insurance was said this afternoon to have been only \$50,000. This was on the tapestry and stage appliances. The building was supposed to be fireproof and it is not yet known for how much it was insured.

The loss in stage wardrobes is estimated at from \$100,000 to \$150,000.

Scenery That Was Burned.

The scenery for twenty operas was being prepared by Painter Hoyt, and was nearly completed. Among the operas for which the scenery was being prepared were the following:

"Don Giovanni," "Trovatore," "Rigoletto," "Queen of Sheba," "L'Africaine," "Hernani," "Flying Dutchman," "Fidelio," "Faust," "Hamlet," "Prophete," "Lakme," "Mignon," "Tannhauser," "Lo- leingstein," "Rheingold," "Siegfried," "Gotterdammerung," "Die Walkure" and "Tristan and Isolde."

In addition to these Hoyt had painted scenery for Hawthorne's "Scarlet Letter," to be presented by Mansfield at Daly's, and for "Fleur d'Orange," with which the Casino is to be opened Sept. 15.

The scenery for the "Scarlet Letter" was especially valuable.

Scenery was also stored in the building for some road plays, among which is the "Plant- ous Daughter."

The boxes in the parterre were burned and water-soaked, and will have to be retrimmed. The boxes were fitted out by the owners.

Among the boxes of which the furnishings were totally destroyed were those of Jay Gould, George H. Warren, William C. Whitney, Curtis N. Field, Jeremiah Milbank, C. N. Curtis, Henry C. Lewis, Austin Corbin, Calvin Brice and Cornelius Vanderbilt.

Humors That Exploded Occurred.

Joshua Henry, of the Dramatic Mirror, claims that while passing the building at 10 o'clock there were two explosions inside the building in quick succession. He says he noticed a policeman, but that no investigation was made.

Mr. Stanton, who has been Secretary of the Directory, resigned last May and was succeeded by Mr. McLaren. The latter stated to an Evening World reporter that the insurance would cover the loss on the building. He refused, though, to state the amount of insurance, or the companies in which it is placed.

THE BURNED PLAYHOUSE.

It cost \$2,100,000 to Build It and Was Thought to Be Fireproof.

The Metropolitan Opera-house was built at an expense of about \$2,100,000 by seventy stockholders, each of whom subscribed \$30,000, and each of whom became the owner of one of the seventy boxes, choice of which was decided by lot.

Besides the investment of \$30,000, box-holders had to pay an assessment every season amounting to from \$1,500 to \$2,000. When Mr. Abbey got his lease of the opera-house at the end of last season it was made a condition that the assessments should cover the cost of the season.

During the past nine years many changes have been made in the list of box-holders and stockholders. The most recent list is as follows:

Part I. 1. Oden Goelet, 2. Jay Gould.

Part II. 3. George Peabody Wetmore, The Misses Ogden, Wednesday; 4. Ely Giddard.

Part III. 5. George Peabody Wetmore, 6. W. C. Schermerhorn, Monday; 7. W. S. Gurrier, Wednesday; 8. Egerton Winthrop, Friday.

Part IV. 9. Mrs. A. W. Sherman, Wallace C. Andrews, half season, 10. Cyrus W. Field, R. G. Dunn, Wednesday.

Part V. 11. William C. Whitney, S. C. Harriott, Monday, 12. Mrs. William Astor.

Part VI. 13. Mrs. Astor.

Part VII. 14. Mrs. Astor.

Part VIII. 15. Mrs. Astor.

Part IX. 16. Mrs. Astor.

Part X. 17. Mrs. Astor.

Part XI. 18. Mrs. Astor.

Part XII. 19. Mrs. Astor.

Part XIII. 20. Mrs. Astor.

Part XIV. 21. Mrs. Astor.

Part XV. 22. Mrs. Astor.

Part XVI. 23. Mrs. Astor.

Part XVII. 24. Mrs. Astor.

Part XVIII. 25. Mrs. Astor.

Part XIX. 26. Mrs. Astor.

Part XX. 27. Mrs. Astor.

Part XXI. 28. Mrs. Astor.

Part XXII. 29. Mrs. Astor.

Part XXIII. 30. Mrs. Astor.

Part XXIV. 31. Mrs. Astor.

Part XXV. 32. Mrs. Astor.

11. John J. Wyson, Monday; W. Storm Wednesday; J. H. Beckman, Friday.

12. Miss Callender, Monday and Friday; Mrs. J. Milbank, Wednesday.

13. George N. Curtis, James A. Bostwick, E. T. Knowlton, Monday.

14. Henry C. Lewis, Monday; W. H. Starbuck, Wednesday; W. H. Inman, Friday.

15. Adrian Iselin, David Stuart, Wednesday.

16. Austin Corbin.

17. William D. Sloane, H. McK. Twombly, 18. H. G. Remsen, Monday; Clarence Andrews, Wednesday; Robert Goeltz, Friday.

19. H. Knickerbocker, Monday and Mats; J. H. Schiff, Wednesday; McCoskey Butt, Friday.

20. Robert Goeltz.

21. F. O. French, odd performances; Russell Hoodley, even performances.

22. Henry Warren.

23. J. Hood Wright.

24. Geo. Hobart Warren, odd performances; J. Augustus Hamilton, Henry T. Sloane, even performances.

25. Elbridge T. Gerry.

26. Luther Kountze, Mrs. Paron Stevens, even performances.

27. E. C. Moffatt, Monday; P. P. Lewis, J. E. Alexandre, Wednesday; Thomas Stokes, Friday.

28. W. Seward Webb.

29. L. J. Leiter, Monday; J. T. Farish, Wednesday; C. C. Baldwin, Friday.

30. William K. Vanderbilt.

31. George De Forest, Monday; Thomas Hitchcock, Wednesday; E. R. Gunther, Friday.

32. William Rockefeller.

33. Calvin S. Brice.

34. Heber R. Bishop.

35. Cornelius Vanderbilt.

36. George S. Bowdoin.

37. Bradley Martin.

38. The Director.

39. Miss Catherine Drexel.

40. George Kemp.

41. George F. Baker, H. C. Fahnestock.

42. Mrs. Marshall O. Roberts.

43. James Harriman.

44. J. C. Barron, M. D.

45. Dr. Jackson, Monday; F. N. Sharon, Friday.

46. H. G. Marquand.

47. Mrs. J. C. Ayer.

48. R. T. Wilson.

49. Walton H. Brown, odd performances.

50. Adrian Iselin, even performances.

51. Robert L. Cutting.

52. Miss McKesson, Monday; C. H. Sanford, Wednesday; Addison Cunniff, Friday.

53. James A. Roosevelt.

54. James Stillman.

55. D. O. Mills.

56. W. L. Breese.

57. G. O. Jennings, odd performances. G. G. Haven, even performances. John E. Parsons, J. Pierpont Morgan.

58. Samuel D. Babcock.

59. Charles Cooper.

60. James Gordon Bennett.

61. W. B. Thilligast, odd performances; William M. Kingsland, even performances.

62. C. P. Huntington.

63. W. E. Connor, G. P. Moreland, Wednesday.

64. P. Morton, even performances.

65. Adrian Iselin, Jr.

66. F. C. Lawrence, George S. Scott, Wednesday.

67. Wm. Rhineland.